

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2441

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 1198

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EEC, GR, TU

SUBJ: CAGLAYANGIL COMMENTS ON EC COUNCIL TO GREEK APPLICATION

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 01356, B. ANKARA 1152

1. FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL COMMENTING ON EEC COUNCIL'S FORMAL AGREEMENT TO GREEK APPLICATION FOR EC MEMBERSHIP SAID THAT TURKEY WAS PAYING METICULOUS ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER AND WOULD STUDY IT CAREFULLY. THE FONMIN ADMITTED THAT IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMUNITY "TO DECIDE WHAT ANSWER TO GIVE TO THE GREEK APPLICATION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP AND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS TO REALIZE THIS ADHERENCE." HOWEVER, IT HAD TO BE REALIZED "THAT THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE CAN ONLY BE SOLVED THROUGH DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

2. CAGLAYANGIL AGREED THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD BY AND LARGE FOLLOWED AN IMPARTIAL, BALANCED POLICY ON GREEK-
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TURKEY RELATIONS. THE COUNCIL DECISION "MUST NOT BE

INTERPRETED AS MEANING THAT THE GREEK ASSOCIATION WITH THE COMMUNITY WOULD CHANGE THE POLICY THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT BE A PARTY TO THE CONFLICT BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE." DURING GOT CONTACTS WITH THE COMMUNITY "THIS COMMUNITY POLICY HAS BEEN FIRMLY AND REPEATEDLY CONFIRMED BY OUR PARTNERS."

3. NEWS THAT EC HAD GIVEN FORMAL AGREEMENT TO THE GREEK APPLICATION FOR EC MEMBERSHIP BROKE IN TURKEY WHILE EC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES WERE HOLDING TALKS IN ISTANBUL AND ANKARA. QUESTIONED ON THIS POINT, EC COMMISSION DEPUTY CHAIRMAN CAPORALE SAID TALKS ON FULL MEMBERSHIP FOR GREECE WOULD START BECAUSE GREECE HAD ASKED FOR THEM, BUT THIS DID NOT NECESSARILY DICTATE ULTIMATE OUTCOME OF EEC-GREECE DISCUSSIONS. LIKEWISE, TURKEY'S ULTIMATE DECISION TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER OF THE EEC WOULD BE A JOINT TURKEY-EC DECISION, NOT A UNILATERAL DECISION BY THE COMMUNITY. CAPORALE SAID COMMISSION TALKS IN ISTANBUL WITH BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND WITH GOT IN ANKARA FOCUSED ON EVER-GROWING TRADE GAP BETWEEN EEC AND TURKEY AND SOLUTIONS TO BE TAKEN TO CLOSE THE GAP.

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